1 2	BILL LOCKYER, Attorney General of the State of California RICHARD D. GARSKE, State Bar No. 50569		
	Deputy Attorney General		
3	California Department of Justice 110 West "A" Street, Suite 1100		
4	San Diego, California 92101		
5	P.O. Box 85266 San Diego, California 92186-5266		
6	Telephone: (619) 645-2075 Facsimile: (619) 645-2061		
7	Attorneys for Complainant		
8	Attorneys for Complainant		
9			
10	BEFORE THE		
11	CALIFORNIA BOARD OF ACCOUNTANCY DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA		
12	STATE OF CAL	IFORNIA	
13	In the Matter of the Accusation Against:	Case No. AC-2003-27	
14	WILLIAM CHARLES BOETTGER	STIPULATION IN	
15	1920 Hidden Crest Drive El Cajon, California 92019	SETTLEMENT AND DECISION	
16	Certified Public Accountant Certificate No. CPA 13434		
17	Respondent.		
18	•		
19	In the interest of a prompt and speedy	settlement of this matter, consistent with the	
20	public interest and the responsibility of the California Board of Accountancy (hereinafter the		
21	"Board"), the parties submit this Stipulation in Settlement and Decision to the Board for its		
22	approval and adoption as the final disposition of the Accusation.		
23	It is hereby stipulated by and between the parties to the above-captioned matter		
24	and their respective counsel that the following is true.		
25	1. Respondent WILLIAM CHARLES BOETTGER (hereinafter		
26	"respondent"), holds Certificate No. 13434 of Certified Public Accountant. Said certificate was		
27	issued by the Board on December 8, 1967. The license is on active status and will expire on		
28	September 1, 2005.		

2. On or about May 27, 2003, Carol B. Sigmann, in her official capacity as the Executive Officer of the Board, and as the Complainant, issued on behalf of the Board an Accusation, Case No. AC-2003-27, setting forth causes for discipline of the Certified Public Accountant license held by respondent (hereinafter the "Accusation"). The Accusation was duly and properly served upon respondent. On or about June 5, 2003, respondent submitted a Notice of Defense to the Accusation, Case No. AC-2003-27. A true and correct copy of the Accusation, Case No. AC-2003-27, is attached hereto as Exhibit "A" and is incorporated herein by this reference.

- 3. Complainant Sigmann is represented in this matter by Bill Lockyer,
 Attorney General of the State of California, by and through Richard D. Garske, Deputy Attorney
 General.
- 4. Respondent is represented in this matter by Paul W. Smigliani, attorney at law.
- 5. Respondent has received and read the Accusation in Case No. AC-2003-27, presently pending before the Board.
- 6. Respondent understands the nature of the charges alleged in the Accusation and that the charges and allegations constitute cause for imposing discipline upon his license to practice as a Certified Public Accountant in California. Respondent is fully aware of his right to a hearing on the charges and allegations contained in the Accusation and the right to request reconsideration or appeal, as well as all other rights accorded him pursuant to the California Business and Professions Code and Government Code. Respondent freely and voluntarily waives all of these rights.
- 7. Respondent understands that he has the right to use compulsory process to procure the presence of witnesses at a hearing on the Accusation or to procure documentary evidence to be presented on his behalf, and that by entering into this Stipulation, respondent gives up the right to compulsory process.

- 8. Respondent understands that at a hearing, he could introduce relevant testimony and exhibits on his own behalf and in mitigation, including exculpatory evidence. At a hearing, respondent would have the opportunity to rebut the evidence against him. Respondent understands that by entering into this Stipulation, he gives up the right to call witnesses or introduce evidence on his own behalf or in mitigation, or to rebut the evidence against him.
- 9. Respondent admits the truth of each and every allegation in the Accusation, Case No. AC-2003-27, and agrees that he has therefore subjected his license to discipline. Respondent agrees to the Board's imposition of penalty, as set forth in the Order below.
- 10. Admissions made by respondent herein are for the purposes of this proceeding, for any other disciplinary proceedings by the Board, and for any petition for reinstatement, reduction of penalty, or application for relicensure, and shall have no force or effect in any other case or proceeding.
- 11. It is understood by respondent that, in deciding whether to adopt this Stipulation, the Board may receive oral and written communications from its staff and the Attorney General's office. Communications pursuant to this paragraph shall not disqualify the Board or other persons from future participation in this or any other matter affecting respondent. In the event this settlement is not adopted by the Board, the Stipulation will not become effective and may not be used for any purpose, except for this paragraph, which shall remain in effect.
- 12. The parties agree that facsimile copies of this Stipulation, including facsimile signatures of the parties, may be used in lieu of original documents and signatures. The facsimile copies will have the same force and effect as original signatures.
- 13. In consideration of the foregoing admissions and findings, the parties agree that the Board may, without further notice or formal proceedings, issue and enter an Order as follows.

<u>ORDER</u>

A. IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Certified Public Accountant Certificate No. 13434, issued to WILLIAM CHARLES BOETTGER, is revoked. However, the revocation is stayed and respondent is placed on probation for five (5) years upon the following terms and conditions.

1. SUSPENSION

Certified Public Accountant Certificate No. 13434 issued to respondent WILLIAM CHARLES BOETTGER is suspended for forty-five (45) days. During the period of suspension, respondent shall engage in no activities for which certification as a Certified Public Accountant or Public Accountant is required, as described in Business and Professions Code, Division 3, Chapter 1, Section 5051.

2. OBEY ALL LAWS

Respondent shall obey all federal, California, other states' and local laws, including those rules relating to the practice of public accountancy in California.

3. SUBMIT WRITTEN REPORTS

Respondent shall submit written reports to the Board within ten (10) days of completion of each quarter on a form obtained from the Board. Respondent shall submit, under penalty of perjury, such other written reports, declarations, and verification of actions as are required. These declarations shall contain statements relative to respondent's compliance with the terms and conditions of probation. Respondent shall immediately execute all release of information forms as may be required by the Board or its representatives.

4. PERSONAL APPEARANCES

Respondent shall, during the period of probation, appear in person at interviews/meetings as directed by the Board or its designated representatives, provided such notification is accomplished in a timely matter.

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5. COMPLY WITH PROBATION

Respondent shall comply fully with the terms and conditions of the probation imposed by the Board and shall cooperate fully with representatives of the Board in its monitoring and investigation of respondent's compliance with probation terms and conditions.

6. PRACTICE INVESTIGATION

Respondent shall be subject to, and shall permit, a practice investigation of respondent's professional practice. Such a practice investigation shall be conducted by representatives of the Board, provided notification of such review is accomplished in a timely manner.

7. COMPLY WITH CITATIONS

Respondent shall comply with all final orders resulting from Citations issued by the Board.

8. TOLLING OF PROBATION FOR OUT-OF-STATE RESIDENCE/PRACTICE

In the event respondent should leave California to reside or practice outside this State, respondent must notify the Board in writing of the dates of departure and return. The period of non-California residency or practice outside the State shall not apply to reduction of the probationary period, or of any suspension. No obligation imposed herein shall be suspended or otherwise affected by such period of out-of-state residence or practice, except at the written direction of the Board.

9. CONTINUING EDUCATION COURSES

Respondent shall complete forty (40) hours of professional education courses in accounting and auditing as specified by the Board or its designee prior to October 1, 2006. This requirement shall be in addition to the continuing education requirements for licensing.

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10. REVIEW OF WORK PAPERS AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

During the period of probation, the work papers and financial statements for any audits performed by respondent shall be reviewed by a California Certified Public Accountant, who is approved by the Board or its designed representatives, at respondent's expense before the release of the audit report.

11. COST OF REIMBURSEMENT

Respondent shall reimburse the Board \$2,321.20 for its investigative and prosecution costs. The payment shall be within thirty (30) days of the date that the Board's decision becomes final in this matter.

12. <u>VIOLATION OF PROBATION</u>

If respondent violates probation in any respect, the Board, after giving respondent notice and an opportunity to be heard, may revoke probation and carry out the disciplinary order that was stayed. If an Accusation or Petition to Revoke Probation is filed against respondent during probation, the Board shall have continuing jurisdiction until the matter is final, and the period of probation shall be extended until the matter is final.

13. COMPLETION OF PROBATION

Upon successful completion of probation, respondent's license will be fully restored.

B. This Stipulation shall be subject to the approval of the Board. If the Board fails to adopt this Stipulation as its Order, the Stipulation shall be of no force or effect for either party.

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ENDORSEMENT

We concur in the Stipulation and Order.

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RICHARD D. SARSKE

Attorney General of the State of Galifornia

BILL LOCKYER

Deputy Attorney General Attorneys for Complainant

W. SMIGLIANI Attorney for Respondent

I have carefully read and fully understand the Stipulation and Order set forth above. I understand that in signing this Stipulation, I am waiving my right to a hearing on the charges set forth in the Accusation on file in this matter. I further understand that in signing this Stipulation, the Board may enter the foregoing Order placing certain requirements, restrictions, and limitations on my right to practice public accountancy in the State of California. I agree that a facsimile copy of this Stipulation, including a facsimile copy of my signature, may be used with the same force and effect as the original.

DATED:

Respondent

BEFORE THE CALIFORNIA BOARD OF ACCOUNTANCY DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA

WILLIAM CHARLES BOETTGER	Case No. AC-2003-27			
1920 Hidden Crest Drive El Cajon, California 92019				
Certified Public Accountant Certificate No. CPA 13434				
Respondent.				
DECISION AND ORDER				
The attached Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order, in Case No. 2003-27,				
is hereby adopted by the California Board of Accountancy, Department of Consumer Affairs, as				
its Decision in this matter.				
This Decision shall become effective	on <u>April 22, 2005</u>			
It is so ORDERED March 23,	2005			

FOR THE CALIFORNIA BOARD OF ACCOUNTANCY DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS

1 2 3 4	of the State of California TIMOTHY L. NEWLOVE, State Bar No. 73428 Deputy Attorney General California Department of Justice 110 West "A" Street, Suite 1100 San Diego, California 92101	
5	P.O. Box 85266 San Diego, California 92186-5266 Telephone: (619) 645-3034 Facsimile: (619) 645-2061	
7 8	Attorneys for Complainant	
9 10 11	BEFORE T CALIFORNIA BOARD OI DEPARTMENT OF CON STATE OF CAL	F ACCOUNTANCY SUMER AFFAIRS
12	In the Matter of the Accusation Against:	Case No. AC-2003-27
13 14	WILLIAM CHARLES BOETTGER 1920 Hidden Crest Drive El Cajon, California 92019	ACCUSATION
15	Certified Public Accountant Certificate No. CPA 13434	
16 17	Respondent.	
18		
19	Complainant alleges:	
20	1. The Complainant, Carol Sigman	n, is the Executive Officer of the California
21	Board of Accountancy (hereinafter the "Board") and makes this Accusation solely in her officia	
22	capacity.	
23	2. On December 8, 1967, the Board issued to respondent WILLIAM	
24	CHARLES BOETTGER (hereinafter "BOETTGER") a certificate, No. 13434, of Certified	
25	Public Accountant, to practice accountancy in the State of California pursuant to the	
26	Accountancy Act, Division 3, Chapter 1, section 5000 et seq., of the California Business and	
27	Professions Code. Said certificate is currently in full force and effect and expires subject to	
28	renewal on August 31, 2003.	

3. Business and Professions Code section 5100 authorizes the Board to bring an administrative disciplinary proceeding against a license holder under the Accountancy Act for unprofessional conduct.

FACTS

- 4. At all times material herein, the Securities and Exchange Commission of the United States of America was and is a governmental agency or body.
- Commission, in an administrative proceeding brought against respondent BOETTGER, entered an Order Instituting Public Administrative Proceedings Pursuant to Rule 102(e) of the Commission's Rules of Practice, Making Findings and Imposing Remedial Sanctions. The Order determined that, in connection with audits performed by respondent of the financial statements of two publicly traded companies, respondent BOETTGER engaged in improper professional conduct for purposes of Rule 102(e) of the Commission's Rules of Practice. The Order operated to permanently deny respondent's privilege of appearing or practicing before the Securities and Exchange Commission as an accountant.
- 6. The Securities and Exchange Commission accepted an Offer of Settlement from respondent BOETTGER wherein respondent, without admitting or denying the Commission's findings, consented to the entry of the Order, the Commission's findings and the Commissions' permanent denial of respondent's practice before the Commission.
- 7. Included within the Order of the Securities and Exchange Commission were findings that respondent BOETTGER was responsible for conducting the Madera International, Inc. ("Madera") audits for the years ended March 31, 1996-1998, and the EMB Corporation ("EMB") audits for the five months ended February 29, 1996, and the years ended September 30, 1996-1997. The Order also noted findings that these financial statements included material errors. Examples of errors cited in the Order are:
 - a. Madera purchased timberland from Imexa, a Nicaraguan corporation, in 1994 for \$5 million. The property value was subsequently increased to \$12 million,

based on an appraisal by an "authority in Nicaragua." In February 1995, the property was written off as worthless when it was determined that Imexa did not own the property and that the Nicaraguan government had canceled Imexa's exploration rights.

b. In July 1994, Madera entered into an agreement to acquire, among other things, 478,000 acres of timber producing property located in the Brazilian rain forest, which it valued at \$27 million. The only support for the transaction was a "transfer agreement" executed by the seller.

Madera realized after the acquisition that due to logistical problems it was not economical to harvest timber and transport it. Madera did not write down the value of the property even though it knew that no potential income would be derived from the property.

- c. Madera entered into various "consulting agreements" with officers and directors of Madera and companies controlled by them. None of the consulting agreements were disclosed as related party transactions in filing with the Commission.
- d. The balance sheet of EMB included an asset "land held for sale" valued at \$3.9 million, which accounted for 94% of EMB's assets and all of its stockholders' equity. An appraiser concluded that the market value of the land was \$415,000, and projected net income from the assumed sale of water producing rights over a ten-year period to be \$3.9 million. Since EMB did not intend to develop the property but was simply holding the property for resale, the land should have been recorded at \$415,000. Instead, EMB, with respondent's concurrence, valued the land at \$3.9 million.
- 8. The Order of the Securities and Exchange Commission further noted that, in the conduct of these audits, respondent BOETTGER was responsible for specific departures from auditing standards relating to the Madera International, Inc. audits for the years ended March 31, 1996-1998, and the EMB Corporation audits for the five months ended February 29, 1996, and the years ended September 30, 1996-1997, as follows:

Madera Audits

a. Failed to properly plan and supervise the audits.

- b. Failed to obtain evidence of the ownership and valuation of an investment in Nicaraguan timber producing property.
 - c. Failed to disclose related party transactions.

EMB Audits

Failed to obtain sufficient evidential matter concerning the valuation of the "land held for sale" and "Investment in Joint Venture" assets.

9. The Order described in paragraph 5 was served upon respondent BOETTGER on or about September 19, 2001. On or about January 31, 2002, in a letter addressed to the California Board of Accountancy, respondent informed the Board about the Order.

FIRST CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

REVOCATION OF THE RIGHT TO PRACTICE BEFORE A GOVERNMENTAL BODY

- 10. Complainant incorporates herein by this reference the preamble and each of the allegations set forth in paragraphs 1 through 8 hereinabove.
- 11. Business and Professions Code § 5100(h) [formerly Business and Professions Code § 5100(g)] provides that unprofessional conduct under the Accountancy Act includes the suspension or revocation of the right to practice before any governmental body or agency.
- BOETTGER is subject to discipline under Business and Professions Code §5100(h) [formerly Business and Professions Code § 5100(g)], in that on September 19, 2001, the Securities and Exchange Commission of the United States of America permanently denied respondent's privilege of appearing and practicing before the Commission as an accountant for reasons that are substantially related to the qualifications, functions and duties of an accountant, as described in paragraphs 5, 6, 7 and 8 hereinabove.

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SECOND CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

UNTIMELY REPORTING

- Complainant incorporates herein by this reference the preamble and each 13. of the allegations set forth in paragraphs 1 through 9 hereinabove.
- Business and Professions Code § 5063 provides that a licensee shall report 14. to the Board in writing certain reportable events, including the cancellation, revocation or suspension of the right to practice as a Certified Public Accountant before any governmental body or agency, within thirty (30) days of the date that the licensee has knowledge of the event.
- Business and Professions Code § 5100(g) [formerly Business and 15. Professions Code § 5100(f)] provides that unprofessional conduct includes a wilful violation of the Accountancy Act.
- The certificate of Certified Public Accountant held by respondent 16. BOETTGER is subject to discipline under Business and Professions Code § 5100(g) [formerly Business and Professions Code § 5100(f)], for a violation of Business and Professions Code § 5063(a)(3), in that respondent was served with the Order permanently denying his privilege to practice before the Securities and Exchange Commission on or about September 19, 2001, and did not report this event to the Board until January 31, 2002.

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PRAYER

herein alleged, and that following said hearing, the Board issue a decision:

Public Accountant Certificate No. 13434, heretofore issued to WILLIAM CHARLES

BOETTGER; and

b. Taking such other further action as may be deemed proper.

WHEREFORE, the Complainant requests that a hearing be held on the matters

Revoking, suspending or otherwise imposing discipline upon Certified

DATED: Mud/2003.

Executive Officer

California Board of Accountancy Department of Consumer Affairs

State of California

Complainant

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